



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

chance to show that this or that element in the morality of the Old Testament must be supernaturally revealed, whereas, he would have been far more effective, if he had allowed the facts to speak for themselves and had summed up the inevitable inferences at the close of his volume. As it is, this apologetic purpose has made him altogether too sweeping in his depreciation of non-Jewish ethics and of the progress of extra-Israelitish peoples in developing moral principles. Perhaps the most satisfactory point about the book is a detailed treatment of the Decalogue. But we shall still have to wait for what the author had a splendid opportunity to give, viz., a scientific treatment of the development of moral principles among the Hebrews, based upon a critical arrangement and study of Old Testament documents.

G. S. G.

---

**Central Truths and Side Issues.** By the REV. R. G. BALFOUR. New York : Imported by Charles Scribner's Sons. 1895. \$1.40.

Mr. Balfour is a theologian of the old school, but well-read and with open eye. He discusses such central subjects as the Incarnation and the Atonement, and such side issues as Baptism, the Covenant at Sinai, and Resurrection of the body. We admire the frankness and candor of the treatment. His discussion of the theories of the atonement is summed up in this sentence: "All that we claim is that the doctrine of substitution shall have the first and fundamental place, and then all the others will group themselves naturally around it." The weakest discussion is that on the Covenant of Sinai, in which he shows clearly that he is still struggling in the gulf and mire of the theories about the "covenants." He regards God as carrying on a great experiment with the two great divisions of the human race. "The Gentiles were left to the light of nature, suffered to walk in their own ways, in order to test the question: 'Can man, in the exercise of his own unaided reason and conscience, find out God and raise himself to a higher and better life?' The result of the experiment was a negative answer. The Jews, the chosen people of God, to whom he had by direct revelation made known his character and will, were put under a covenant of law with a view of testing this further question: 'Can man, even when placed in the most favorable circumstances, win eternal life by any doings of his own?' And the answer to that question furnished by the history of Israel was an emphatic negative." We have passed the era in which God was looked upon as the Great Experimenter.

G. S. G.

---

**The Parables by the Lake.** By W. H. THOMSON, M.D., LL.D. New York : Harper & Brothers. 1895. Pp. 159.

Among the many books upon parables, this modest little volume has a merit peculiar to itself. It is written by a physician, who, as the son of Rev. William M. Thomson, D.D., author of *The Land and the Book*, was born and lived for many years in Palestine. Sometimes, it is true, the author is led off